



Center for Local, State, and Urban Policy  
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

## CLOSUP Events

- **The Policy and Politics of the Michigan Prisoner Re-entry Initiative.** March 29, 2010. *Panelists:* Patricia L. Caruso, Director of the Michigan Department of Corrections; Peter Luke, Lansing correspondent for Booth Newspapers; John Proos, State Representative (R-St. Joseph), Minority Vice-Chair of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Corrections; Alma Wheeler Smith, State Representative (D-Salem Township), Chair of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Corrections; *Moderator:* Jeffrey D. Padden, President of Public Policy Associates, Inc. Co-sponsored by the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy
- **Neighborhood as Sustainability Laboratory: Agency and Agendas in the 'Green' Rebuilding of New Orleans' Lower Ninth Ward.** March 15, 2010. Barbara Allen, Virginia Tech National Capitol Region Campus. Sponsored by the Ford School Science and Technology in Public Policy Certificate Program, co-sponsored by CLOSUP.
- **Health Care Reform at the State vs. National Level: Tradeoffs and Tipping Points.** March 22, 2010. *Panelists:* Thomas Buchmueller, Professor of Business Economics and Public Policy, University of Michigan Stephen M. Ross School of Business and the School of Public Health; John J. H. (Joe) Schwarz, Former U.S. Representative and Visiting Lecturer, University of Michigan Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy; Marianne Udow-Phillips, Director, Center for Healthcare Research and Transformation (CHRT) located at the University of Michigan; *Moderator:* Matthew Davis, Associate Professor, University of Michigan Medical School and the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy. Co-sponsored by the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy, and funded in part by the Gilbert S. Omenn and Martha A. Darling Health Policy Fund
- **Will U.S. Schools Drag Us Down?** March 10, 2010. Richard Hanushek, Stanford University. Sponsored by: The Education Policy Initiative (EPI) at the University of Michigan Center for Local, State, and Urban Policy (CLOSUP) and the International Policy Center's Distinguished Lecture Series
- **Reinventing the Wheel: Why Broken Cities Stay Broken and New Ways Civil Rights Attorneys Can Fix Them.** Feb. 5/6, 2010. Sponsored by the Michigan Journal of Race and Law.
- **Are High-Quality Schools Enough to Close the Achievement Gap? Evidence from a Bold Social Experiment in Harlem.** January 20, 2010. Roland Fryer, Harvard University. Sponsored by: The Education Policy Initiative (EPI) at the University of Michigan Center for Local, State, and Urban Policy (CLOSUP)
- **Higher Education in Michigan: Looking Back and Looking Ahead on the Fifth Anniversary of the Cherry Commission.** December 10, 2009.
- **Beyond Cape Wind: The Challenge of Siting Renewable Energy Facilities.** December 2, 2009. Robert Whitcomb, Vice President and Editorial Page Editor, Providence Journal  
*Commentators:* Matthew Wagner, Manager, Wind Site Development, Detroit Edison; Sally Churchill, Vice President and Secretary of the University of Michigan. Co-sponsored by the Program in the Environment (PitE), and the University of Michigan Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy
- **Food System Governance: Successes, Challenges, and Opportunities for Michigan.** November 30, 2009.

- **Midwest v2.0: New Innovations, Re-energized Workforce, Sustainable Future.** November 13-14, 2009. A Roosevelt Institution Conference.
- **The Role of Urban Food Retail in Detroit's Economic Development and Revitalization.** October 21, 2009. *Moderator:* Larissa Larsen, Assistant Professor of Urban Planning, the University of Michigan; *Panelists:* Olga Savic Stella/Fresh Food Access Initiative, Vice President of Business Development at the Detroit Economic Growth Corporation; Margaret Garry/Detroit Grocery Project, Director of Special Projects at the Michigan Department of Human Services; Brad Wilson/Detroit Community Grocery Store Coalition, Community Development Director of United Food and Commercial Workers Statewide Community Development; Randall Fogelman/Green Ribbon Collaborative and MI Food Movers, Vice President of Development for Eastern Market Corporation
- **Ross Net Impact Conference, 2009: Markets with a Mission.** October 15-16, 2009. Presented by the Net Impact student organization at the Ross School of Business, co-sponsored by CLOSUP.
- **Urban Education in SE Michigan: Inequalities and Innovations.** May 6, 2009. A Special Symposium Presented by The Center for Afroamerican & African Studies, co-sponsored by CLOSUP.
- **Building a Community-based, Sustainable Food System: Case Studies and Recommendations.** April 30, 2009. Presented by students of the University of Michigan Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning.
- **Schooling in Developing Countries: the Roles of Supply, Demand, and Government Policy.** April 1, 2009. Elizabeth King, Director of Education, the World Bank. Sponsored by: The Education Policy Initiative (EPI) at the University of Michigan Center for Local, State, and Urban Policy (CLOSUP)
- **Rightsizing Michigan's Prison Population: Policy-driven Expansion and Reduction in an Era of Mass Incarceration.** March 16, 2009. Current and former Corrections Department leaders discuss changes in Michigan's crime and corrections policies and how they have affected the state's prison population over time. *Panelists:* Patricia L. Caruso, Director of the Michigan Department of Corrections, 2003-present; Robert Brown, Former Director of the Michigan Department of Corrections, 1984-1991; *Moderator:* Dennis Schrantz, Deputy Director of the Michigan Department of Corrections, Planning and Community Development Administration.
- **The Effect of School Choice on College and Crime.** March 11, 2009. David Deming, Harvard University.
- **The Past and Future of Education Research.** March 9, 2009. Grover "Russ" Whitehurst, Senior Fellow, Governance Studies and Director, Brown Center on Education Policy, The Brookings Institution. Sponsored by: The Education Policy Initiative (EPI) at the University of Michigan Center for Local, State, and Urban Policy (CLOSUP)
- **Michigan's Economy in 2009 and Beyond.** February 9, 2009. John Austin, Director of the New Economy Initiative and Vice President of the Michigan Board of Education; Charles Ballard, Professor of Economics at Michigan State University and Director of the MSU State of the State Survey; Christopher Hayter, Program Director for the Economic Development Program at the National Governors Association; Kim Hill, Director of the Automotive Communities Program and Associate Director of the Economics and Business Group, Center for Automotive Research; *Moderator:* Paul Courant, Dean of Libraries and Harold T. Shapiro Collegiate Professor of Public Policy at the University of Michigan.

- **A Pathway to Common Education Standards.** January 26, 2009. Roy Romer, Chairman, Strong American Schools and former Governor of Colorado. Sponsored by: The Education Policy Initiative (EPI) at the University of Michigan Center for Local, State, and Urban Policy (CLOSUP)
- **Assessed by a Teacher Like Me: Race, Gender, and Subjective Evaluations.** December 3, 2008. Amine Ouazad, Assistant Professor of Economics and Political Science, INSEAD.
- **Improving Impacts of Classrooms: Professional Development and Classroom Observation.** November 19, 2008. Robert Pianta, University of Virginia. Sponsored by: The Education Policy Initiative (EPI) at the University of Michigan Center for Local, State, and Urban Policy (CLOSUP)
- **Do Gun Buybacks Save Lives?** November 12, 2008. Andrew Leigh, Associate Professor, Economics Program, Research School of Social Sciences at Australian National University.
- **Election '08's Impact on Michigan: Energy, the Environment, and the Economy.** October 14, 2008. This panel discussion co-sponsored by Michigan Radio and the Center for Local, State, and Urban Policy at the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy will feature experts in the environment, energy, and economics for a discussion on how the policies of the presidential candidates will impact Michigan. They will be joined by advocates for both the Obama and McCain campaigns. Listen to the discussion, and ask your questions.
- **Global Urban Symposium.** October 10, 2008 (day-long event). Hosted by the Ross School of Business and its Net Impact organization, this event is co-sponsored by CLOSUP. A day-long conference in Ann Arbor that explores the role that the private, public and nonprofit sectors play in addressing the challenges facing cities around the globe.
- **Education Policy Research at the University of Michigan.** April 28, 2008.
- **Learning to Teach? Teacher Preparation and Student Achievement.** April 2, 2008. Susanna Loeb, Stanford University. Sponsored by: The Education Policy Initiative (EPI) at the University of Michigan Center for Local, State, and Urban Policy (CLOSUP)
- **The Role of the Private Sector in K-12 Public Education.** March 19, 2008. Michael P. Flanagan, State of Michigan; Frederick M. Hess, American Enterprise Institute; JD Hoye, National Academy Foundation; Sanford I. Weill, Citigroup, Inc.; Deborah Loewenberg Ball, School of Education, University of Michigan; Brian A. Jacob, Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy, University of Michigan. Sponsored by: The Education Policy Initiative (EPI) at the University of Michigan Center for Local, State, and Urban Policy (CLOSUP)
- **Can Educational Outcomes be Improved in Community Colleges? Evidence from Two Randomized Trials.** January 22, 2008. Cecilia Rouse, Princeton University. Sponsored by: The Education Policy Initiative (EPI) at the University of Michigan Center for Local, State, and Urban Policy (CLOSUP)
- **Michigan School Districts Agenda Setting Conference.** December 5, 2007.
- **The Effects of New York City's Charter Schools on Student Achievement.** November 19, 2007. Caroline Hoxby, Stanford University.
- **Reflections on No Child Left Behind.** October 24, 2007. Jacob Vidgor, Duke University. Sponsored by: The Education Policy Initiative (EPI) at the University of Michigan Center for Local, State, and Urban Policy (CLOSUP)

- **Aesthetic Democracy: Negotiating Visual Norms for Wind Energy Development.** February 12, 2007. Roopali Phadke, Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies, Policy & Politics, Macalester College.
- **Where Do We Go From Here? An Agenda-setting Conference for the Economic Issues Facing Michigan.** March 14, 2006.
- **Creating Collaborative Communities.** October 31 - November 1, 2005.
- **Lessons from Katrina for Urban and Social Welfare Policy.** October 10, 2005. Bruce Katz, Director, Brookings Institution Metropolitan Policy Program.
- **The 2005 State Politics and Policy Conference.** May 13-14, 2005.
- **Great Lakes Regional Economic Initiative.** March 14-15, 2005.
- **Michigan at the Millennium:**
  - **Tax Policy Issues,** 5/12/2004
  - **Economic Policy,** 3/17/2004
- **Authority Migration.** May 30, 2003.
- **European and American Experiences with Affordable Housing and Integrated Community Development.** May 9, 2003.
- **Structural Change and Theories of Legislative Organization: A Reassessment of Congressional Turf Wars.** April 11, 2003. E. Scott Adler, University of Colorado.
- **On the Stability, Preservation and Growth of Democracy.** March 25, 2003. Krishna Ladha, New York University.
- **Linking Land Use Models to Land Cover for Generating Landscape Scenarios.** December 4, 2002. Dan Brown, Associate Professor, School of Natural Resources and Environment.
- **Privatization: Issues of State and Local Public Infrastructure.** November 22, 2002.
- **Public Policy Beyond the Digital Divide.** November 11, 2002. Karen Mossberger and Caroline Tolbert, Kent State University.
- **Assessing the Quality of Community Life in Southeast Michigan: A Progress Report and Some Preliminary Findings.** September 25, 2002. Robert Marans, Professor of Architecture and Urban Planning and Senior Research Scientist, ISR.
- **Can We Have Our Coast and Develop It Too? Reconciling State and Local Growth Management Goals for North Carolina's Coastal Commons.** March 7, 2002. Richard Norton, Assistant Professor of Urban and Regional Planning, College of Architecture and Urban Planning.
- **Innovation in Transportation and Land Use as Expansion of Household Choice.** December 12, 2001. Jonathan Levine, Associate Professor of Urban Planning, College of Architecture and Urban Planning.
- **Connecting Corridors: Implementing Metropolitan Greenway Networks in North America.** October 31, 2001. Donna Erickson, Associate Professor of Landscape Architecture, School of Natural Resources and Environment.



## CLOSUP Research Awards to U-M Faculty

- **Responding to the Collapse of Lake Huron's Chinook Salmon Fishery: Using an Integrated Assessment to Improve Decision Making and Enhance Resiliency.** Jim Diana, Michigan Sea Grant, School of Natural Resources and Environment.  
Abstract: Lake Huron's salmon fishery has declined sharply with significant economic consequences for the coastal towns that rely on fishing-related tourism. While biologists try to explain the changes, communities are unsure how to act upon the limited information about the fishery and possible alternatives. This project will organize six workshops with relevant stakeholders, such as boat captains, business leaders, and town officials in order to define the most pressing questions and identify realistic options for coastal towns. The workshops will guide a scientific and socioeconomic assessment of the causes and possible responses to the declining fishery, ultimately improving decision making and promoting collaboration.
- **Informing the Michigan Neonatal Biotrust.** Sharon Kardia, School of Public Health.  
Abstract: If fully implemented, the Michigan Neonatal Biotrust could make about 4 million bloodspots collected under the Michigan Newborn Screening program available for research. This widening in the scope of use for the bloodspots from routine public health prevention and surveillance to include non-anonymous research and economic development raises important policy questions for the Michigan Department of Community Health and the citizens of Michigan. Through systematic analysis of the literature and qualitative stakeholder interviews, this project will provide the background research required for informed deliberation and decision-making by the Biotrusts's existing and newly constituted governing bodies.
- **Barriers to Medicaid Participation Among Immigrants.** Dean Yang, Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy.  
Abstract: Previous research suggests that many of the uninsured are eligible for Medicaid, and that immigrant take-up rates are particularly low. This project aims to evaluate the barriers to Medicaid participation among newly eligible immigrants. Randomized interventions will include providing information, facilitating enrollment in Medicaid, and facilitating citizenship. The first phase of the project includes a pilot survey of 200 Dearborn, Michigan immigrants who have been legal permanent residents for about five years. The results of the survey will (1) improve the project design, (2) help secure major grant funding, and (3) generate information about perceived barriers to Medicaid participation for the Dearborn immigrant community.
- **The National Survey of Climate Change Opinion.** Barry Rabe, Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy.  
Abstract: This project follows up on a pilot project awarded to Professors Rabe and Borick in 2008 which studied citizen awareness and attitudes regarding climate change and policy alternatives in Michigan and Pennsylvania. This new project extends the research to provide national survey coverage and will lead to presentations at the National Conference on Climate Governance, December 2008 at the Miller Center of Public Affairs, University of Virginia.

- **Community Benefits Agreements: Advancing Ecological Democracy in Land Use Planning.** Larissa Larsen, College of Architecture and Urban Planning.  
Abstract: Community Benefits Agreements (CBAs) are a new approach that involves local residents in siting decisions and compensation negotiations for locally unwanted land uses (LULUs). This research evaluates the participation process, outcomes, and site selection decisions for three examples of CBAs in Nevada, Colorado, and California. The research method involves qualitative and quantitative research approaches, including content analysis of newspaper articles, interviews with participants, and site selection evaluation. Lessons from these cases will then be applied to two Michigan examples (the Detroit Intermodal Freight Terminal and the Detroit River International Crossing), each at varying early stages in the CBA process.
- **Improving Quality of Life Estimates Across Cities: Are Cities Really Too Big?** David Albouy, Department of Economics, College of Literature, Arts, and Sciences.  
Abstract: Economists infer quality of life in a city from how high its cost of living is relative to its local wage level. Taking into account federal taxes, cost of living besides housing, and non-labor income in estimates of quality of life changes these estimates dramatically. Large cities like San Francisco and Detroit are materially poorer but better places to live than previous research suggests. Culture, coastal locations, and good weather predict quality of life well: individuals pay dearly for these amenities. Theoretical models that find that cities are inefficiently large do not simultaneously account for federal taxes, cost of living, and non-labor income, which together can cause cities to be inefficiently small.
- **Remaking the City After Abandonment.** Margaret Dewar, College of Architecture and Urban Planning.  
Abstract: Although property abandonment is widespread in many cities of the Northeast and Midwest and policymakers are concerned about handling vacant and abandoned property, the immediacy of policy intervention has left unexamined three major questions whose answers ought to strengthen policy. What do abandoned sections of cities become? What are the differing outcomes of varied policies, and why are these outcomes of the process of transition from abandonment to new ownership? What *should* abandoned sections of cities become? This project will solicit scholarly papers and produce an edited volume that focuses on these questions.
- **The Tax Incidence of Sales Tax Holidays.** Margaret Dewar, College of Architecture and Urban Planning.  
Abstract: Although property abandonment is widespread in many cities of the Northeast and Midwest and policymakers are concerned about handling vacant and abandoned property, the immediacy of policy intervention has left unexamined three major questions whose answers ought to strengthen policy. What do abandoned sections of cities become? What are the differing outcomes of varied policies, and why are these outcomes of the process of transition from abandonment to new ownership? What *should* abandoned sections of cities become? This project will solicit scholarly papers and produce an edited volume that focuses on these questions.
- **Are Permit Market Outcomes Independent of Permit Allocation? Empirical Evidence from Electricity Markets.** Meredith Fowle, Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy.  
Abstract: Market-based pollution permit trading programs have moved to the front and center of industrial environmental regulation. Increasingly, these "cap-and-trade" (CAT) programs are administered by cooperative federalist systems of governance. Whereas some policy parameters (such as the level of the cap on total emissions) are determined at the federal level, participating states have considerable autonomy in determining how the CAT program will be implemented within their jurisdiction. A particularly important decision that is routinely delegated to states involves determining how permits will be allocated to interested parties.

- **The Climate of Opinion: Public Attitudes Toward Global Warming and Policy Alternatives in Michigan and Pennsylvania.** Barry Rabe, Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy.  
Abstract: This comparative project is intended to yield insights into citizen awareness and attitudes regarding climate change and policy alternatives, examining two states with somewhat similar emissions profiles but markedly different records in climate policy development to date. It builds on a pilot study conducted in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in May 2007. This project replicates that study with surveys conducted in Fall 2007 in both Pennsylvania and Michigan. This project resulted in a follow-up national survey and conference that also received support from the CLOSUP Policy Research Grant program in Fall 2008.
- **The Kalamazoo Promise.** Stephen DesJardins, School of Education.  
Abstract: On November 10, 2005 the Kalamazoo Promise was announced. The Kalamazoo Promise will pay at least sixty-five percent of the tuition to any public college or university located in Michigan for any high school graduate of the Kalamazoo Public School District who meets certain eligibility criteria. Using data from the ACT, the authors will examine the impact of the Kalamazoo Promise on several outcomes: 1) the impact of the Kalamazoo Promise on the college choice set of Kalamazoo Public School District Graduates; 2) the impact of the Kalamazoo Promise on the set of students who choose to attend community college in Kalamazoo. The Kalamazoo Promise is a bold attempt to bring about urban renewal by both enhancing the human capital acquisition of Kalamazoo Public School graduates and attracting families who are interested in pursuing greater opportunities for their children. Understanding how the program directly affects high school graduates is vital as there are other locales - for example, Pittsburgh and Denver - that are considering programs that are analogous to the Kalamazoo Promise.
- **The Demand for E85 Ethanol.** Lucas Davis, Department of Economics.  
Abstract: Policies to curtail petroleum consumption increasingly focus on expanding markets for ethanol and other biofuels, including in Michigan, where the Governor aims to have 1000 biofuels pumps installed by 2008. Despite this policy interest, relatively little is known about consumer preferences for biofuels. This study uses ten years of data from Minnesota to estimate how consumer demand for E85 - a blend of 85% ethanol and 15% gasoline - depends on fuel prices and other factors. The preliminary results suggest that consumers are highly sensitive to price changes and switch readily to the fuel that is least costly on a mileage-adjusted basis.
- **Community Context and Prisoner Reentry.** Jeffrey Morenoff and David Harding, Population Studies Center, Institute for Social Research.  
Abstract: The rising number of individuals being released from prison has prompted renewed interest among academics and policymakers in integrating former prisoners back into society. Still, relatively little is known about how the communities into which former prisoners move when they leave prison affect the likelihood that they will recidivate. The proposed research would examine the role that community context plays in the risk of recidivism by collecting and analyzing administrative records of people released from Michigan prisons in 2002. The proposed analysis would estimate, through multilevel hazard modeling and matching analysis, the effects of neighborhood context upon reentry on recidivism, net of pre-incarceration neighborhood context and a host of individual-level factors.
- **Estimating the Costs of Homelessness and Supportive Housing in Washtenaw County.** Elisabeth R. Gerber, Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy.  
Abstract: This project seeks to calculate and compare the costs of homelessness and supportive housing for a sample of individuals and families now living in Washtenaw County, Michigan. It is part of an ongoing commitment by CLOSUP and the Ford School to provide research support to Washtenaw County's "Blueprint to End Homelessness"

initiative. The proposed research will be conducted in partnership with the Washtenaw Housing Alliance and Washtenaw County administration.

- **Newborn Screening State Policy Implementation.** Peter Jacobson, School of Public Health.  
Abstract: Each year 4 million babies undergo newborn screening in the United States. This process is currently regulated by state statutes. Recent scientific innovations have led to the adaptation of existing policies. The purpose of this study is to understand the influence of institutional and organizational factors on the implementation of newborn screening policy. State self-reported data, interviews, and document reviews are used to model the influence of bureaucratic autonomy, past policy changes, laboratory-type, and staffing.
- **The New Working Poverty: Low Income Families' Survival Strategies for Managing Layoffs, Lack of Health Insurance, and Other Shocks to Economic Well-Being.** Kristin Seefeldt, Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy.  
Abstract: This project aims to understand: 1) what coping strategies families employ in a new era of economic instability and a restricted safety net; 2) how families choose among a variety of strategies - self-reliance, help from friends or family, assistance from private charities, receipt of government benefits, and; 3) how families deal with no or limited health insurance. The recent recession led to higher unemployment, increased layoffs, cutbacks in employer-provided health insurance and slow wage growth, but little is known about how low-income families are faring.
- **Is Low Income Housing Tax Credit a Good Tool for Neighborhood Integration and Community Revitalization?** Lan Deng, Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning.  
Abstract: This project studies neighborhood impacts generated by the Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) program in four case-study metropolitan areas, representing a variation in the strength of metropolitan economy and a variation in LIHTC program administration. Central research questions include: Have LIHTC developments adversely affected nearby single-family property values when used to bring low-income families to quality neighborhoods? Have LIHTC developments contributed to neighborhood revitalization when used as a community development tool? This research is intended to help inform policymakers and housing practitioners of ways to improve LIHTC administration and produce the type of development that will generate positive neighborhood outcomes.
- **Research Conference: Against Health: Resisting the Invisible Morality.** Carol Boyd, Institute for Research on Women and Gender.  
Abstract: This provocative, public conference examines health policy research along with current state and local health practices. The two-day event not only provides a venue for critical discourse about existing health practices, but also generates new research insights that can be applied to health policy development.
- **Bridging the Gap Between Workforce Development and Economic Development: Understanding Cluster-based Approaches.** Elsie Harper-Anderson, College of Architecture and Urban Planning.  
Abstract: A disconnect has been noted between workforce development and economic development efforts in the U.S. Previous studies documented collaboration within both fields but a lack thereof across functional lines. Recent economic decline forced local areas to look inward for solutions to strengthening their economies and creating employment. New research suggests that cluster-based strategies provide a vehicle to achieve both ED and WD goals simultaneously. This study combines survey results with in-depth interviews to gauge the extent of this strategy's use and whether it is serving as a bridge for the two fields. Understanding the potential of this tool could help us connect people to jobs more efficiently.



- **Connecting Policy and Community Change in Support of Increasing Educational Attainment in the State of Michigan.** John Burkhardt, School of Education.  
 Abstract: This project will attempt to reconcile apparent dissonance between commonly expressed and publicly celebrated values surrounding opportunity and educational achievement with increasingly divergent policies and public behaviors. Through a series of policy briefs, the content of which will be drawn from the extant literature and empirical data collected and analyzed for the *Cherry Commission on Higher Education and Economic Growth* and the ongoing research project *Access to Democracy*, this project will provide a more nuanced understanding of how communities think about educational issues in Michigan. These briefs will be in the format of occasional briefing papers to state and local leaders, who have been identified to benefit from this information. The briefs will utilize the findings of research to examine differences in attitudes within Michigan communities and will incorporate information about educational investments and outcomes at the community level.
  
- **Local Environmental Institutions and Participation: Analyzing Variations and Changes in Individual Environmental Beliefs.** Arun Agrawal, School of Natural Resources and Environment.  
 Abstract: This project investigates how participation in institutions sponsored by governments shapes individual beliefs. Specifically, the research examines local community environmental institutions in the state of Himachal Pradesh in the Indian Himalaya. The project focuses on beliefs related to forests and the environment. A simple experimental research design is used with pre- and post-treatment measurements to test whether greater participation in environmental institutions leads to more positive beliefs about environmental conservation. The research will illuminate theoretical issues regarding whether and how institutions affect beliefs, and policy issues concerning how variations in beliefs affect costs of policy enforcement.
  
- **Policy Leadership in Federations.** Ken Kollman, Department of Political Science.  
 Abstract: This project comprises research and writing toward a book on comparative federalism. The research is fundamentally about the processes of deciding on public policies. The research will examine a well-known tradeoff made by public officials in a federation: in order to get the policies they want they may need to agree to institutional changes that grant more power to other levels of the federation, changes that have uncertain consequences into the future. These tradeoffs will be studied in the context of the European Union and the United States.
  
- **Reconsidering the Federal Deductibility of State and Local Taxes.** James R. Hines, Jr., Department of Economics.  
 Abstract: This project will evaluate the economic consequences of the state and local tax deduction, together with the (closely associated) federal exclusion of interest earned on state and local bonds. This issue is long due for reconsideration, since there is considerable reason to believe that there are serious flaws in the received economic logic suggesting that there are large distortions associated with the state and local income tax deduction.
  
- **Managing Ecosystem Services as Common-pool Resources: Identifying Best Practices for Wetland Restoration Activities.** Jennifer Read, Michigan Sea Grant Program.  
 Abstract: The sound management of common-pool resources requires government regulation of individual activities up to and including those on privately owned land. Most would acknowledge that wildlife is an example of a common-pool resource requiring such intervention, but less commonly recognized are the ecosystem services (e.g., water filtration, climate stabilization) provided by wetlands. What is the best approach to managing freshwater wetland restoration for the maximum return of ecosystem services? This project develops a series of recommendations for state and regional programs to assess and revise wetland restoration efforts by grounding theoretical and governance discussions in a real-world case-study context.

- **Irony Choices in Policymaking.** Stephen Garcia, Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy.  
Abstract: A classic finding in social psychology is naïve realism – people's false belief that they view the world "objectively" and that others share in this "objective" view of reality. Of course, people have subjective views of reality, as a target may appear differently from different perspectives. Accordingly, this project examines how state policy makers and the general public process information differently as a function of their unique perspectives. More specifically, this project explores how policy makers in their efforts to select strong penalties for civil infractions may ironically choose weaker penalties from the perspective of the general public.
- **Coordinating States and Workforce Development in the U.S.** Allen Hicken, Department of Political Science.  
Abstract: This project investigates the political economy of workforce development in several U.S. states. Literatures in Sociology, Political Science and Economics have all addressed the question of the role states play in economic development. In the context of developing states in southeast Asia, the project team has begun to identify key characteristics of successful cases that deviate in important respects from existing models. In particular, they have recognized that the developmental, regulatory, and predatory state models have empirical and theoretical shortcomings. Empirically, successful states have employed a mix of strategies that do not fit easily in any one existing model. Theoretically, it is clear that development now requires a different set of tasks that these models are ill-equipped to address. No longer can states rely on a hands-off, regulatory approach to development. Nor do they have the capacity to control and manage these newer more difficult tasks in the top-down fashion envisioned in the developmental state model. The researchers argue that "coordinating states" are emerging as a successful institutional solution to the developmental challenges and tasks that governments now face.
- **The Impact of Education on Health: Evidence from School Entry Laws in the United States.** Justin McCrary, Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy.  
Abstract: This project investigates the impact of education on health using confidential death- and birth-certificate data from the National Center for Health Statistics. Death certificate data allows examination of the impact of an individual's own education on lifespan, while birth certificate data allows examination of the impact of parental education on infant health. To estimate these impacts, quasi-experimental identification strategies are used, particularly school entry policies.
- **Racial and Ethnic Discrimination in the Labor Market: Evidence from a Randomized Experiment in Metropolitan Detroit.** Tony Chen, Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy.  
Abstract: Observational and audit studies have produced fairly compelling evidence of racial and ethnic discrimination in the contemporary labor market, but many critics remain unconvinced. This project is a field experiment (building on the pioneering work of Bertrand and Mullainathan) that is designed to generate new experimental data about racial and ethnic discrimination in metropolitan Detroit labor markets. It involves responding to local job ads with fictitious resumes containing randomly assigned characteristics: white-sounding versus black- or ethnic-sounding name, suburban versus urban residence, and suburban versus urban high school degree. The resulting evidence will shed clear light on the existence, magnitude, and sources of labor market discrimination.
- **Youth Participation in Public Policy at the Municipal Level: A Research, Education and Outreach Project in Michigan.** Barry Checkoway, School of Social Work.  
Abstract: The purpose of this two-year project is to develop knowledge of strategies for youth participation in public policy at the municipal level, with emphasis on Michigan. Using a participatory community-based research methodology at the state, local, and cross-site levels, the researchers will identify, describe, and analyze efforts to promote

youth participation in three selected Michigan municipalities. The study will examine effects of these programs on youth and their communities; factors which facilitate and limit participation; and lessons learned from empirically-based practice. This project will also include an outreach strategy to build municipal capacity for youth participation through education and training.

- **Detroit Area Study: Financial Services for the Poor.** Michael Barr, Law School.

Abstract: Low-income individuals often lack access to financial services from banks and thrifts, and turn to alternative financial service providers such as check cashers, payday lenders, and money transmitters. Low-income households face high costs for these services and often find it more difficult to save and to plan financially for the future. Living paycheck to paycheck leaves them vulnerable to emergencies that may endanger their financial stability, and lack of longer-term savings undermines their ability to improve skills, become a homeowner, and build assets. High cost financial services reduce the value of government income transfer programs and also may diminish the effectiveness of welfare-to-work strategies and the Earned Income Tax Credit. This study will analyze (1) how and why low- and moderate-income people in the Detroit metropolitan area use certain types of financial services; (2) the costs and benefits of such services; and (3) how such persons indicate that they would respond to new types of financial products tailored to their needs.

- **Green Development in Michigan.** Larissa Larsen, School of Natural Resources and Environment.

Abstract: Environmentally-friendly or 'green' development in Michigan faces many obstacles. The primary obstacles are the perceived higher costs and increased construction time and difficulty. This award will fund dissemination costs for the "Green Development in Michigan Handbook" which was produced by an interdisciplinary team of faculty and graduate students. The handbook goes beyond stating that 'green' is good by de-mystifying the terms, documenting the construction and maintenance costs, and presenting eleven Michigan case studies. The document is specific to the temperate climate of Michigan. The handbook is intended for local developers/investors and municipal governments involved with building and development in Michigan.

- **Nonprofit Hospital Payments-in-Lieu-of-Taxes: Taxation as Health Care Regulation.** Jill Horwitz, Law School.

Abstract: This project examines the local tax treatment of nonprofit hospitals. It asks two central questions: First, to what extent do nonprofit hospitals benefit from state and local property tax exemptions? Second, how do these exemptions affect nonprofit hospital behavior? The project includes case studies based on interviews with hospital executives and local taxing authorities, legal analysis of cases and statutes, and quantitative empirical testing of hypotheses developed from the qualitative work. The project includes development of an instrument to survey nonprofit hospitals for the development of a database of hospital payments in lieu of taxes.

- **The Detroit Arab American Study: Community Outreach.** Wayne Baker, Survey Research Center, Institute for Social Research.

Abstract: The Detroit Arab American Study was the first comprehensive study of the Detroit Arab and Chaldean American community and its relationships with non-Arabs. This survey of a representative sample of 1000 Arab Americans has been funded by the Russell Sage Foundation and went into the field in June 2003. The research team received funding from CLOSUP for two critical outreach efforts: a series of community meetings with local government and Arab and Chaldean American leaders, and an innovative effort to prepare customized analyses for local government and non-profit agencies and organizations.

- **Public Land Disposition in Michigan Cities.** Margaret Dewar, College of Architecture and Urban Planning.  
Abstract: In Detroit and several other Michigan cities, city, state, and county governments own large amounts of land, much of it vacant. Despite pressures from developers who want to reuse the land, the stock of property in public ownership remains very large. Literature on urban redevelopment does not explain the persistence of this phenomenon. This project will explain Detroit's land disposition challenges through comparison with Cleveland's and Flint's experience. Work on design and implementation of a land bank and on improvement of existing land disposition processes will contribute to policy making and to understanding how pressures for redevelopment can fail to overcome dysfunctional governmental systems.
- **Rust Belt Revitalization: Who Benefits?** Reynolds Farley, Population Studies Center, Institute for Social Research.  
Abstract: After several decades of lethargic growth, unambiguous signs of revitalization appeared in metropolitan Detroit during the 1990s. Vehicle manufacturers effectively met the demands of a booming market and the city's economic base successfully shifted toward health care, education, entertainment and recreation. Nevertheless, racial residential segregation is at a peak in metropolitan Detroit and residents of the city and those in the suburbs differ greatly on all key social and economic indicators. Urban underclass neighborhoods persist. The 2004 Detroit Area Study (DAS) will investigate whether the revitalization now underway minimized or exacerbated city-suburban and black-white differences. A major component will be an encompassing survey to study racial attitudes, job search, housing search and the causes of continued residential segregation by race and economic status. Key questions asked in the 1976 and 1992 DAS will be repeated but technological innovations now allow us to more effectively test hypotheses about the net effects of race on residential decisions.
- **State Greenway Programs: An Analysis of State-Local Collaboration in Open Space Planning.** Donna Erickson, School of Natural Resources and Environment.  
Abstract: Connected greenway corridors provide one form of open space protection in urban and rural landscapes. This exploratory research asks whether state greenway programs are effective in greenway implementation locally. Objectives are to: 1) understand the varying nature of state-local greenway collaboration and 2) analyze how these differences affect landscape outcomes. The project will use case study and spatial analysis research methods, examining greenway programs in Delaware, New Jersey and Maryland. Products will include a preliminary typology of state greenway programs, and analyses that link to implementation theory. Findings will be disseminated through reports, web pages, conference presentations and scholarly activities.
- **Deterrence and Criminal Punishment.** Justin McCrary, Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy.  
Abstract: This award will fund data acquisition and analysis to determine the feasibility of using Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) data to examine offense rates of individuals just above and just below the age of majority.
- **Detroit Arab American Study: Data Preparation.** Wayne Baker, Survey Research Center, Institute for Social Research.  
Abstract: This award provided funding for data preparation to clean, weight, code open-ended questions, and reconcile the DAAS data with the Detroit Area Study data in order to allow for combined analysis. This data preparation will allow the research team to prepare the following initial studies:
  - A community portrait of Arab Americans in the metro Detroit area.
  - A paper exploring the overlaps and divergences between the DAAS and the qualitative literature on Arab Detroit.

- A paper comparing levels of confidence in major political, social, and ethnic institutions.
  - A paper exploring the "clash of civilizations" in the United States.
  - A paper examining the acceptability of restrictions on civil liberties.
  - A paper considering transnational attachments as a determinant of similarities between Arabs in the U.S. and the Middle East.
  - A paper exploring the relationship between transnational ties and ethnic identification in the U.S.
  - A paper exploring the core values of Arab Americans.
- **Institutional Explanations for the Robustness of Federations.** Jenna Bednar, Department of Political Science.  
 Abstract: A successful federal union maintains the delicate balance between state sovereignty and federal unity. It protects the states from federal encroachment, while preventing the states from shirking on their responsibilities - for example, by failing to implement federal policy - as well as protecting the states from harmful acts of by other state governments, such as erecting barriers to trade or discriminating against residents of other states. The purpose of this project is to understand the institutional factors that contribute to a sustainable federal union. The project is particularly interested in how institutions interact, how they complement one another, to sustain the federation and make the relationship profitable for the states involved.
- **Local Impacts of Economic Change: Strategic Responsiveness of State and Local Workforce Development Systems to Economic Decline.** Elsie Harper-Anderson, College of Architecture and Urban Planning, University of Michigan.  
 Abstract: The economic boom period of the mid-1990's and subsequent bust of 2001 determined new winners and losers in urban labor markets. Opportunities created by the once expanding economy produced a new assortment of corporate professionals as well as a significant class of service workers. Unfortunately, the turn of the century brought a sudden halt to the new job machine. Effects of the gains as well as the subsequent losses were regionally concentrated in areas with the most economic activity. Consequently, state and local workforce development efforts gained heightened importance as former CEOs and highly educated technological gurus found themselves out of work and either jockeying for positions or seeking new training alongside common folk. Workforce development systems were now facing clients and demands for services foreign to the traditional institution of workforce development.
- **Maximizing Profit vs. Minimizing Disadvantageous Inequality: Allocations Within and Between State and Local Jurisdictions.** Stephen Garcia, Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy.  
 Abstract: Research on the separate versus joint evaluation of payoff allocations (e.g., Bazerman, Loewenstein, & White, 1992) has found that individuals prefer an equitable allocation between themselves and another person (e.g. self - \$500 / other - \$500) to an alternative allocation where they receive a higher absolute but disadvantageously unequal outcome (e.g. self - \$600 / other - \$800) when these alternatives are evaluated separately. On the other hand, when evaluating these alternatives jointly individuals show the opposite pattern, preferring profit maximization. I argue, however, that the more rational preference for profit maximization in joint evaluation is limited to those circumstances where the payoff recipients share the same social category (i.e., State of Michigan residents). When social category membership differs between recipients (i.e., State of Michigan residents vs. State of Ohio residents), individuals no longer prefer profit maximization under joint evaluation. Experiments will be conducted to support the hypothesis that overlaying social categories, operationalized as state and local jurisdictions, onto payoff recipients will shift preferences from profit maximization to equitable allocation, even under joint evaluation. Implications for allocations across state and local lines will be discussed.

- **Job Creation/Job Destruction and Strategies for Economic Development and Transition.**  
John E. Jackson, Department of Political Science and Davidson Institute.  
Abstract: Scholars are increasingly studying the process of economic development and transition by measuring and modeling job destruction and job creation within an economy. Much of the current work focuses on the transitional economies of East-Central Europe. This project will expand and analyze a unique database (the Michigan Employment Longitudinal Database, or MELD) to study the job creation/job destruction process in Michigan over the period 1978-1998. The project will also compare the experiences in Michigan with those of the transitional economies of East-Central Europe. The results from this work will have both academic and policy contributions and audiences in the areas of economic development and transition.
  
- **The Use of Education to Improve Local Land Use Policy-Making and Promote Sustainable Development in Coastal Michigan.** Richard K. Norton, College of Architecture and Urban Planning.  
Abstract: The goal of this project is to evaluate current land-use planning based adult education efforts taking place in Michigan, and to lay the foundation for an extended research program that will address efforts to promote sustainable development in coastal Michigan. From a theoretical perspective, the research will contribute to current debates on state and local policy-making in the realm of natural resource management by testing hypotheses drawn from competing analytical frameworks. In addition, the work will focus explicitly on the role played by local elected and appointed officials, address explicitly the effects of education on policy outcomes, and evaluate the effects of those policy outcomes on landscape outcomes. All of these specific foci represent significant gaps in the current literature.
  
- **Renovate or Relocate? An Assessment of Local School Board Decision-Making and Sprawl in Michigan.** Richard Norton, Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning.  
Abstract: Sprawling land use is an issue of concern in Michigan. One important aspect of the debate involves the question of whether new exurban schools cause sprawl. Yet virtually all of the research on this issue has been conducted by public interest advocacy groups, and much of the analysis has been anecdotal. This project will continue and complement a recently conducted case study analysis designed to address the preliminary question of what factors lead a school board to relocate rather than renovate. The project will entail conducting a web-based survey of school board superintendents across the State of Michigan.
  
- **Understanding Social Initiatives in Professional Sport: Content, Process and Outcomes.**  
Richard Wolfe, Division of Kinesiology.  
Abstract: The literature on corporate social responsibility (CSR) is extensive. Much of this literature has focused on the relationship between CSR and economic performance. However, very little attention has been paid to the content and processes underpinning CSR efforts, or to the outcomes of such efforts on intended constituencies (Margolis & Walsh, 2003). The purpose of this research is to contribute to filling this void; its purpose is to investigate the content, processes and outcomes of CSR efforts initiated by a particular type of organization, professional sport teams. In investigating each of the above, the influence of team context will be addressed. As examples, the influence of such elements of team context as the demographics of a team's fans and players as well as team/sport dependence on local, state, and/or federal governments will be investigated. This exploratory, inductive, study, based upon developing strong, trusting, relations with the focal organizations' personnel, will result in generating knowledge that is relevant, timely, and actionable.

- **Beyond 9/11: Homeland Security and Community Policing in Dearborn, Michigan.** David Thacher, Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy and Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning.

Abstract: After a period of widespread community criticism in the mid-1990's, the DPD began to develop several routines, organizational structures, and other innovations designed to improve police-community relations. By most accounts, those efforts helped the Department to regain its legitimacy in the local community. But that achievement threatened to unravel after September 11 as homeland security became a salient issue in Dearborn, which involuntarily found itself in the national spotlight due to its large Arab-American population. Drawing on observations and in-depth interviews, this project will analyze how the pressures associated with the DPD's new homeland security role placed the Department's community policing efforts under stress and forced the city to revisit the issue of police legitimacy once again. In the process, this research will describe the shape that homeland security and community policing have begun to take in Dearborn since September 11. Those findings will illuminate the challenges that homeland security raises for local governments, as well as the strategies developed by one police department to respond to those challenges.
- **Evaluation of Family Independence Summer Project.** Kristin S. Seefeldt and Sheldon Danziger, Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy.

Abstract: FIA is the state's welfare agency, and the Summer Project was designed to provide an intensive set of services to families on welfare who were not meeting the work requirement in order to move them into employment. This project was conducted in counties throughout the state of Michigan during the summer of 2000. Two counties, Berrien and Kent, were selected to target their Summer Project programs to families exempt from the work requirement, primarily families in which one or more members receive disability benefits through the Social Security Insurance (SSI) programs. While Abt Associates studied the overall Summer Project, University of Michigan researchers provided analysis of the Summer Project in Berrien and Kent Counties.
- **Managing for Inclusion.** Professor Martha Feldman and Dr. Anne Khademian, University of Michigan.

Abstract: Feldman and Khademian have identified forms of "managing for inclusion" in the practices of a number of public managers. The focus of such management is on capacity building to enable broad participation in the process of making and implementing public decisions.
- **Overcoming Barriers to Brownfield Redevelopment.** Professor Margaret Dewar, Urban and Regional Planning Program, Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning.

Abstract: Finding ways to encourage redevelopment of contaminated, often abandoned, sites--"brownfields"--in cities has become a major policy issue in Michigan and in the nation. Urban residents and elected officials see the reuse of such land as important to improving the quality of urban life and to reducing the pressure to develop natural lands at the fringe of metropolitan areas. Both the policy debate and the academic discussion have focused narrowly on dealing with cleanup of contamination. However, as this project will demonstrate, redevelopment of urban land has always faced more barriers than contamination, and cleanup alone will not lead to reuse. Through research on Detroit, this project identifies a broader range of barriers to the redevelopment of centrally located, contaminated land in metropolitan areas. Further, the project investigates ways to overcome several barriers to redevelopment in Detroit with emphasis on improving the city's procedures for selling its land.

- **Spatial Job Dynamics and Employment Outcomes: The Case of Michigan.** Kerwin Charles, University of Michigan. Melvin Stephens, Carnegie Mellon University.

Abstract: Where in physical space economic activity occurs is central to many active areas of research in economics and other social sciences. Economic geography asks questions such as where industries locate and how that location affects trade outcomes (Krugman 1989, 1994, 1999). Sociologists have speculated that diminished economic activity in particular parts of the country have contributed to a rise in the number of men who are un-marriageable and a reduction in the marriage rate in those regions (Wilson (1987)). Labor economists have examined changes in employment outcomes across different regions (Katz and Blanchard (1990), Bound and Holtzer (2000)). Most relevant for this study, there is a very old idea in economics that some regions are affected by what is termed spatial-mismatch a disconnection between the skills required by employers in particular places, and skills possessed by people in those areas. Unfortunately, almost no recent work has examined this issue.

- **UCITA Teleconference.** Virginia Rezmierski, Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy  
Abstract: In December 2000, the Center for Local, State, and Urban Policy provided funding to downlink a teleconference and sponsor a discussion of the recently passed Uniform Communication and Information Transaction Act (UCITA). UM Professor Virginia Rezmierski and Ford School student Lynn Watkins organized the conference on campus. Participants were able to hear invited speakers who represented the opposing arguments surrounding the Act and engage in lively, thoughtful, and informative discussion of this important and controversial Act.



## **Education Policy Initiative (EPI)**

In the Fall of 2007 CLOSUP launched the Education Policy Initiative (EPI), a program of coordinated activities designed to bring the latest academic knowledge to issues of education policy. Through a combination of research projects and related events, EPI seeks to identify and evaluate promising educational interventions and to inform educators and policymakers about new research findings. The EPI sponsors a series of education policy related public lectures throughout the academic school year, bringing prominent education scholars from around the country to the University of Michigan. Research projects include studies of federal education policy, urban school districts and K-12 and post-secondary education in Michigan.

### **Public Lectures**

**Will U.S. Schools Drag Us Down?** March 10, 2010. Richard Hanushek, Stanford University.

**Are High-Quality Schools Enough to Close the Achievement Gap? Evidence from a Bold Social Experiment in Harlem.** January 20, 2010. Roland Fryer, Harvard University.

**Schooling in Developing Countries: the Roles of Supply, Demand, and Government Policy.** April 1, 2009. Elizabeth King, Director of Education, the World Bank.

**The Past and Future of Education Research.** March 9, 2009. Grover "Russ" Whitehurst, Senior Fellow, Governance Studies and Director, Brown Center on Education Policy, The Brookings Institution.

**A Pathway to Common Education Standards.** January 26, 2009. Roy Romer, Chairman, Strong American Schools and former Governor of Colorado.

**Improving Impacts of Classrooms: Professional Development and Classroom Observation.** November 19, 2008. Robert Pianta, University of Virginia.

**Learning to Teach? Teacher Preparation and Student Achievement.** April 2, 2008. Susanna Loeb, Stanford University

**The Role of the Private Sector in K-12 Public Education.** March 19, 2008. Michael P. Flanagan, State of Michigan; Frederick M. Hess, American Enterprise Institute; JD Hoyer, National Academy Foundation; Sanford I. Weill, Citigroup, Inc.; Deborah Loewenberg Ball, School of Education, University of Michigan; Brian A. Jacob, Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy, University of Michigan.

**Can Educational Outcomes be Improved in Community Colleges? Evidence from Two Randomized Trials.** January 22, 2008. Cecilia Rouse, Princeton University.

**Michigan School Districts Agenda Setting Conference.** December 5, 2007.

**The Effects of New York City's Charter Schools on Student Achievement.** November 19, 2007. Caroline Hoxby, Stanford University.

**Reflections on No Child Left Behind.** October 24, 2007. Jacob Vidgor, Duke University.

## Conferences and Symposia

- **Michigan School Districts Agenda Setting Conference**
- **A Two-Day Conference on Higher Education in Michigan: Looking Back and Looking Ahead on the Fifth Anniversary of the Cherry Commission**
- **Education Policy Research at U-M Coordinating Conference**

## Research Projects

### **Michigan Policies and Programs**

- **Evaluation of Operation ABC.** Program evaluation of an early literacy tutoring program in Detroit area elementary schools.
- **Economic Revitalization through College Scholarships: The Kalamazoo Promise.** Provides an overview of programs developed to spur economic growth through college scholarships and discusses the effects of such programs, with a particular focus on the Kalamazoo Promise.
- **The Impact of the Michigan Merit Curriculum and Michigan Promise Scholarship on Student Outcomes.** Five year project beginning in the Spring of 2010 to determine the impact of the Merit Curriculum and the Promise Scholarship on student achievement, high school graduation rates, postsecondary attendance and completion

### **Urban School Districts**

- **The Effect of Employment Protection on Worker Effort: Evidence from Public Schooling.** Documents how Chicago teachers respond to job insecurity.
- **Do Principals Fire the Worst Teachers?** Investigates what factors play a role in Chicago principals' teacher dismissal decisions.
- **Development of a Teacher Performance Rating System.** Development of a rating system that identifies the relative effectiveness of teachers at improving student outcomes for a southern U.S. city.

### **National Policy**

- **The Impact of No Child Left Behind on Student Achievement.** Estimates the effect of NCLB on 4<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders math and reading achievement.



## CLOSUP Publications

### Michigan Public Policy Survey

- **Spring 2009 MPPS Key Findings Report.** This report provides highlights of the survey's key findings on fiscal health and economic development issues facing Michigan's local governments, based on survey responses from the Spring 2009 MPPS survey. Some of the findings in this report are broken down by population size of the local communities, while other findings are broken down by jurisdiction type (county, city, village, or township).

### Michigan Research Briefs Series

- **The Prison Population and Corrections Expenditures.** This brief reviews trends in crime rates, the incarceration rate, and corrections expenditures. The brief also examines potential solutions to reduce the cost of corrections while maintaining public safety.
- **Transportation Funding: Highways, Roads and Bridges.** This brief provides an overview of transportation funding for highways, roads and bridges, and offers information on possible policy options to modify that funding.
- **Economic Revitalization through College Scholarships: The Kalamazoo Promise.** This brief provides an overview of programs developed to spur economic growth through college scholarships and discusses the effects of such programs, with a particular focus on the Kalamazoo Promise.
- **Business Taxes.** This brief examines potential reform of the business tax structure in Michigan. The brief describes the current Michigan Business Tax and other forms of business taxes, and analyzes each type of tax in terms of its advantages and disadvantages. The brief also situates Michigan's business taxes in both a historical and a national context.
- **Regulation of the Individual Health Insurance Market.** This brief examines potential reform of the individual health insurance market in Michigan. Attention is paid to how policy changes would affect both insurers and Michigan residents.
- **Smoke-Free Legislation.** This brief examines a variety of policy issues related to smoke-free legislation including economic issues, public health issues, and questions of the role of government in the private market.

### Other Reports and Briefs

- **Reforming the System of Care: A Review of the Literature on Housing and Service Arrangements for Homeless Populations.** This report describes findings from a literature review of recent academic and applied research on the relationship between housing and service arrangements and housing stability for homeless, formerly homeless, and precariously housed individuals and families. The report also offers a brief review of research on homelessness prevention.

- **Survey of Michigan Residents on the Issue of Global Warming and Climate Policy Options: Key Findings Report.** This report describes key findings from a survey of Michigan residents on the topic of global warming and climate policy options, conducted in the Fall of 2007. The study was conducted by Dr. Barry Rabe of the University of Michigan and Dr. Christopher Borick of Muhlenberg College in Pennsylvania. The survey was conducted simultaneously in Michigan and Pennsylvania, to compare findings across the two states. This report highlights only Michigan data.
- **Coming Together in Tough Economic Times: Workforce Development and Economic Development Move Closer Together in Michigan.** This report examines the evolving relationships between workforce development and economic development organizations in Michigan. The report was written by Elsie Harper-Anderson, an Assistant Professor of Urban and Regional Planning at the University of Michigan, and is based on recent CLOSUP-funded studies she directed.
- **Michigan's Economic Transition: Toward a Knowledge Economy.** This report examines Michigan's economic transition away from an industrial economy and toward a knowledge economy, using employment data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics covering the period 1996-2006, and data on firms and establishments from the Census Bureau covering 1998-2002. Growth in new economy sectors is contrasted with losses in the manufacturing sector. The report also examines Michigan's capacity to continue its transition toward a knowledge economy, using data from numerous sources.
- **Detroit Area Study, 2001: Parks and Recreation.** Written by Robert W. Marans, this report examines the opinions of southeast Michigan residents regarding parks and recreational opportunities in their communities and across the southeast Michigan region, using data from the 2001 Detroit Area Study.
- **Detroit Area Study, 2001: Public Services, Local Government, and Taxes.** Written by George R. Carter and Robert W. Marans, this report examines the opinions of southeast Michigan residents regarding public services and facilities, the performance of local government officials, and the cost of government via taxation, using data from the 2001 Detroit Area Study.
- **The Homeless Population in Washtenaw County, Michigan.** Written by Stacy Ebron, Sarah Haradon and Robin Phinney, this report examines the homeless population of Washtenaw County, Michigan, using data from the County's 2005 Point-in-Time Homeless Survey.
- **Detroit Area Study, 2001: Travel and Transportation in Southeast Michigan.** Written by Robert Marans, Professor Emeritus at the Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning and Senior Research Scientist at the Institute for Social Research, this report examines questions related to travel and transportation patterns, values and priorities among southeast Michigan residents, using data from the 2001 Detroit Area Study.
- **Planning for Schools in Michigan.** Written by Richard Norton, Assistant Professor at the Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning, this report examines questions related to renovation vs. new school construction and issues of sprawl in Michigan.
- **Regional Planning in Michigan.** This report examines regional planning regarding land use issues across Michigan communities.
- **Growth Management in California Communities.** This report examines growth management strategies among California cities. This report examines the use of urban growth boundaries and related policy solutions for planning and management of future growth.
- **Policy Report on Privatization.** This report examines issues of privatization related to state and local service provision, and resulted from an academic conference in November 2002.

## **The Impact of the Michigan Merit Curriculum and Michigan Promise Scholarship on Student Outcomes**

### **Project Highlights**

The Center for Local, State, and Urban Policy (CLOSUP) at the University of Michigan's Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy and the College of Education at Michigan State University are beginning a \$5.9 *million* research project to assess two reforms in Michigan designed to promote college attendance and workplace success.

In collaboration with the State of Michigan, researchers at CLOSUP, the University of Michigan's School of Education, and MSU's College of Education will study of the effects of the Michigan Merit Curriculum and the Michigan Promise Scholarship on student outcomes.

The research project is funded through the Evaluation of State and Local Education Programs and Policies Program at the U.S. Department of Education's Institute for Education Sciences.

### **Project Background**

States and districts nationwide have increasingly focused reform efforts at the high school level. In particular, states have standardized high school curricula, raised high school graduation requirements, and provided increased financial assistance for postsecondary education.

Michigan is one of the states leading the way in these reforms. In spring 2006, the state adopted one of the most comprehensive sets of high school graduation requirements in the country, known as the Michigan Merit Curriculum. The new requirements are meant to ensure that students have knowledge and skills to succeed in college and the workplace. Starting with the Class of 2011, the Michigan Merit Curriculum requires all high school students to pass a set of 16 rigorous academic courses, including Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, Biology, and Chemistry or Physics. The state developed a new set of content standards, end-of-course exams and a new statewide high school exam to ensure a high level of rigor in the required classes.

At the same time, the state introduced a new merit-based scholarship program, the Michigan Promise Scholarship, to help students afford to enroll in and complete college. Starting with the Class of 2007, the original implementation of the Michigan Promise Scholarship provides students who meet certain academic standards with up to \$4,000 for college. Students may qualify for the aid by either receiving a passing grade in all subjects on the Michigan Merit Exam or completing two years of postsecondary education at an approved institution with a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.5.

The research involves analyzing the outcomes of eight student cohorts, the graduating classes of 2007 through 2014. The project will pay specific attention to whether these reforms are affecting students differentially based on their socioeconomic status, gender, race and geography. The results will provide policy feedback to state officials that will allow them to make any mid-course adjustments that the evaluation suggests would be beneficial.



## **The Michigan Public Policy Survey**

The Michigan Public Policy Survey (MPPS) is a new program of state-wide surveys of local public officials in Michigan, launched in 2009. The MPPS is designed to fill an important information gap that currently exists. While there are ongoing surveys of the business community and of the citizens of Michigan, there are no ongoing surveys of local government officials. Therefore, although we know the policy priorities, concerns and most important issues for the state's businesses and citizens, we know very little about the views of the local officials who are so important to the economies and community life throughout Michigan. The MPPS is designed to fill that information gap.

Conducted by the Center for Local, State, and Urban Policy (CLOSUP) at the University of Michigan in partnership with the Michigan Association of Counties, Michigan Municipal League, and Michigan Townships Association, the MPPS investigates local officials' opinions and perspectives on a variety of important public policy issues and solicits factual information about their localities relevant to policymaking. Over time the survey will cover issues such as civil society and civic engagement, economic and workforce development, local-state governmental relations, regional governance, privatization, ethics, important problems facing the local government, policy priorities, local finances, demographics, and more.

The MPPS is unique: it is the only ongoing survey research program in the country that targets every unit of general purpose local government in an entire state. The intended respondents are the chief elected and appointed officials in every county, city, township and village in Michigan. Twice per year, the surveys will gather factual data on local government operations, as well as opinion data on today's most pressing policy issues.

These surveys will:

- Provide local public officials with a better understanding of the views and priorities of their peers across the state, as well as of the programs similar communities are developing to meet today's challenges;
- Identify best practices for fiscal management and for economic and workforce development, given the economic transformation underway;
- Enhance opportunities for intergovernmental/regional cooperation and coordination;
- Give state-level policymakers a clear and comprehensive view of the priorities and challenges of communities across Michigan, highlighting commonalities and differences across regions and community types;
- Make possible analyses of convergence and divergence in the attitudes and priorities of Michigan's local political leaders, citizens and business leaders on issues of fiscal policy, service provision, and economic development in their communities.
- While the 2009 surveys will focus on economic and workforce development, the ultimate goal of the MPPS is to foster improved quality of life in Michigan communities through better policymaking.

The MPPS received funding from the W. K. Kellogg Foundation to help launch the program and support the first two surveys in spring and fall 2009. CLOSUP will continue to fund the MPPS with both internal center funds as well as seeking additional sponsored research support from foundations and other interested partners.

